

## A New Aberration of *Eupithecia venosata* Fabr. (Fabr.)

By H. C. HUGGINS, F.R.E.S.

In 1961 Mr. E. S. A. Baynes and myself visited Inishvickilaun in the Blaskets, and from seed vessels of *Silene maritima* bred in 1962, three specimens between us of the dark leaden form of *Eupithecia venosata* Fabr. which I described as s.sp. *plumbea* (*Ent. Record* 74: 171). In 1962 I again visited the island with an especial intent to take *venosata* larvae, and was successful in breeding in 1963 half a dozen more *plumbea*.

In 1963, Mr. Baynes joined me for the second time at Dingle, and we determined to make a search for *venosata* on the mainland. *S. maritima* is by no means common in the district, as it is usually hard grazed by sheep and cows, but we managed to find a patch near Sleah Head from which, in 1964, we each bred a number of s.sp. *plumbea*. In addition, however, Mr. Baynes bred a most remarkable insect, which he has kindly given to me. It appears to be quite undescribed, so I am now doing so, and naming it:

### ***Eupithecia venosata* Fabr. ab. *sepiata* (ab. nov.)**

Markings as in the type, but the whole insect is of a very dark sepia colour; the netted markings are brownish black, not black as in s.sp. *plumbea*.

Type ♂, Dingle, bred 24.v.1964 by Mr. E. S. A. Baynes, in coll. H. C. Huggins.

It may be of interest to record that all the *venosata* Mr. Baynes and I have bred from Dingle and the Blaskets are s.sp. *plumbea* excepting the above insect. As we have now bred about forty between us, it appears to be a rare aberration.

*E. venosata* is not found everywhere on the peninsula where *S. maritima* grows, I found nothing but *Hadena lepida* s.sp. *capsophila* Dup. at either Sybil Head or Brandon Creek. *S. maritima* is highly localised now, not common as in Donovan's time, as it is much more heavily grazed down than in the past.

## Pyralid and Plume Moths of Derbyshire

By D. C. HULME

Since leaving Derby in October 1963 to start a minicoach service in the Highlands of Scotland, the compiler has had even less spare time than hitherto for work on the new *Derbyshire Lepidoptera*. He, therefore, proposes to deal with at least one major group each winter. This instalment covers the Pyralid and Plume Moths and its purpose is three-fold: to gather together all H. C. Hayward's important observations; to give actual dates and the periods these insects are on the wing in this truly Midland county and expand the inadequate summaries quoted in *The Victoria County History of Derby* (1905) and *Lepidoptera of Derbyshire* (1926.)